

June 9, 2024

THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

This Sunday we continue through Paul's second letter to the Thessalonians in our series, *Built Different*, where Paul thanks God for the work taking place in the church. His prayerful words form the foundation for gospel gratitude which in turn shapes us into people of resilience and resolve. True thankfulness flows from being deeply anchored in God's story of salvation, embracing it as our own, and standing firm.

The message this Sunday will focus on 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17, "Gospel Gratitude."

OFFICE OF DEACON – CASTING OF LOTS: The council of Bethel would like to present the following affirmed nominees and church members for the position of Deacon: Jessica Kalf, Helen Krol, Gary Simpson, Jacqueline Prins, Jeff Van Niejenhuis and Ron Van Der Linden.

During the Sunday Worship Service, June 9, we will draw lots for 5 members to fulfill the Office of Deacon. If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk of Council at clerk@discoverbethel.com

OUR OFFERINGS

- 1) **BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION:** The ministries and programs of Bethel.
- 2) **DYNAMIC YOUTH MINISTRIES:** provides programs, curriculum, materials, and training designed to bring children and youth into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ. This collection will specifically support the Cadets ministry.

NEXT WEEK – REFUGEE FUND: This ministry of the deacons provides support for refugee families to get to Edmonton and to help support them as they prepare for life in Canada.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

JENNY HOFSTEDE was admitted to hospital last week with abdominal pain due to an infection and had surgery on her bowel on June 2. Jenny is recovering well; please pray for continued healing.

Please continue to remember **JANNY BARTHEL, CURTIS COENEN, JENNY PENFOLD, DON PROKUDA, ELEANOR PROKUDA, EVANS KOTIO, JANE SHULTZ, CELINE SIGVALDASON,** and **JILL SNEEP** as you pray for our church community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY FAIR JUNE 9: Part of our vision is that everyone who is a part of Bethel will have a specific role (or roles) they play in the life of the church. We are hosting our ministry fair in June so that ministry leaders can prepare better over the summer and we can begin our ministries well in September. There are also summer ministries that require support and assistance. The ministry fair will feature specific opportunities to use your gifts, talents, and abilities to serve Bethel and our community. This Sunday, June 9, please plan to stay after worship for coffee and our ministry fair in the fellowship hall.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING + BUDGET UPDATE: Governing Elders and the Finance team recently met and agreed on two significant changes for the upcoming congregational meeting.

1. First is to hold our Congregational Meeting not on a Wednesday evening but on a Sunday, immediately after the worship service. **Our next Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday June 23, immediately after the worship service.** The worship service will intentionally be planned to be finished much sooner than usual. This will allow time for members to attend a Congregational Meeting who typically are unable to do so.

2. Second, the 2024-2025 total budget amount will be based on the total amounts received in the current (2023-24) fiscal year. Therefore, the budget presented will only be adopted for use if there is a surplus or no deficit in the present fiscal year. Should there be a deficit this year, the upcoming budget will be reduced in line with the deficit. For example, if the 2023-24 budget deficit is 7%, then the 2024-25 budget would be reduced by 7%. The present giving trends do forecast a deficit and if the forecast is accurate, we will reduce the operating budget by as much as \$122,000.

This past week Council met and voted to support the new budget, including how the total amount is to be determined based on this year's giving. As a member, you are encouraged to attend this important meeting on June 23 to also give your vote to the budget. The meeting information package including the budget were sent by email on May 30. Physical copies are available for members at the Welcome Desk. If you have questions about this update and forthcoming budget plan, please reach out to the Governing Elders in advance of our congregational meeting. You can send in questions and comments to governingelders@discoverbethel.com. The Governing Elders value hearing from you and engaging in discussion beforehand as we prayerfully prepare for ministry next year at Bethel.

CANADA DAY: We are looking for people to help us run our Family Canada Day event on Monday, July 1st from 12-3pm for Bethel and the surrounding community. We will celebrate with games, food, face painting, and more! We need help to set up/take down, supervise activities, prepare/serve food, and do facepainting. We are also looking for people to provide live music for the event. To sign up to help please register online [here](#) or see Kaitlyn at the end of the service. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Kaitlyn@discoverbethel.com

NEW BIBLE READING PLAN – MINOR PROPHETS by the Bible Project: Have you been part of Bethel's Bible Reading Plan? This is a great way to try something new or continue your journey through the Bible. Starting May 25, join us as we dive into our Summer Bible Project where we will be reading through the Minor Prophets. Try it out and be part of the conversation! Find the plan [here](#). To join the Bethel Group email Pastor Wendy at wendy@discoverbethel.com.

BETHEL YOUTH

YEAR END GALA: The time for celebrating the year that has passed while looking forward to the year to come is upon us again. Join us on June 14th from 7:00-9:00pm to celebrate together as a community all that God has done. The theme will be 'Country' so come dressed up and ready for some good old fashioned line dances. Bring your parents, friends, and siblings, and expect a great time. Don't forget to sign up [here](#) so that we know who is coming. There is no cost to attend.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

A SPECIAL THANK YOU: You are making a difference! On behalf of the ministries of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, thank you for your gifts to ministry shares. Your support enables congregations to do so much more to further God's Kingdom than any one church could do alone. Our denomination could not impact the world through missions, media, and church development without your incredible and faithful support. Thank you! To discover more visit crcna.org/ministryshares.

COLLECTIONS IN JUNE

June 2	Ministry Shares
June 9	Dynamic Youth Ministries - Cadets
June 16	Refugee Fund
June 23	The Pakitinâsowin Reciprocity Fund
June 30	The King's University

Please visit our website at [discoverbethel/give](https://discoverbethel.com/give) to see the ways that you can donate and support our different collections. If you have any questions about our giving options, please contact Sara at accounting@discoverbethel.com.

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, June 9

10:00 a.m. Worship - in person and live stream
11:30 a.m. Ministry Fair

MONDAY, June 10

6:45 p.m. Council Meetings
7:00 p.m. Prayer - Zoom

TUESDAY, June 11

WEDNESDAY, June 12

6:30 a.m. Prayer - in person and zoom
8:00 p.m. AA

THURSDAY, June 13

12:30 p.m. Food Bank
7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, June 14

7:00 p.m. Youth Year End Gala

SATURDAY, June 15

COMMUNITY NEWS

REHOBOTH CAMP NEEDS YOU! Counsellors are desperately needed to ensure our weeks can run, and Campers with disabilities can enjoy their favourite week. All weeks are still looking for volunteers but R & R week, June 23-28, still requires a minimum of eight volunteers to go ahead. R & R week is for our older Campers that are looking for a relaxing and quieter camp experience – this week is perfectly paired with more mature volunteers. Help us make this summer a highlight for so many adults with disabilities! Visit our website for more information [here](#).

SYNOD 2024: As we approach Synod 2024 we are compelled to pray. The Synod 2024 Prayer Team has put together resources for you, your small group, council, and church. They are available at crcna.org/synod/prayer. Thank you in advance for your prayers. We receive this encouragement from scripture in Mark 11:22-24, *"Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'Have faith in God. I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours.'"* (NLT)
For the call to Synod and Synod Agenda, please click [here](#)

FELLOWSHIP CRC REFUGEE FUNDRAISING BANQUET: After a forced break due to COVID, Fellowship CRC is again hosting its annual fundraising banquet to support our refugee sponsorship program, and you are invited. The evening will include a delicious middle eastern dinner, silent auction, words from our Syrian refugee family, songs by a Ukrainian family, and, of course, fellowship. Tickets are \$100 each with \$75 of that amount being tax deductible. The event will take place Saturday, June 15, 6 PM at the Hellenic-Canadian Community Hall (10450-116 Street). To get your tickets, contact Nancy Van Driel (nancyvandriel@gmail.com) or Joe Mulder (Mjmrjdj@gmail.com).

HOPE MISSION "NO CHILD HUNGRY" WALK: Every day across the province we see children and youth coming to school hungry. These kids come to our programs who have had nothing to eat all day, and our staff across Alberta work at not only feeding hungry tummies, but also to help teens stay in school who would have otherwise dropped out to help provide for their younger siblings. Walk with us **June 15th** to raise hope for Albertans struggling with the challenges of rising costs. The "No Child Hungry" Walk will take place in Edmonton, Calgary, Camrose, and Red Deer. You can sign up to walk or donate at this [link](#).

Emmanuel Home GOLF TOURNAMENT - presented by Keller Construction Ltd. Join us at **The Ranch Golf & Country Club on Saturday, June 22**, for an 8:00 a.m. shotgun start! The day includes a few fun challenges at some holes, prizes, and a delicious steak dinner. All proceeds directly support the residents at Emmanuel Home. Check out our website [here](#) for the registration form, sponsoring opportunities and to sign up, or reach out to Laura Pothoven at lpothoven@emmanuelhome.ca.

REHOBOTH: Please join us on Saturday, June 22, 2024 @ 10:30 am via Zoom for Rehoboth's Annual General Meeting. For your review, the draft minutes from the 2023 AGM is attached to this email, along with the bios for the two new board members. Financial statements will be available at the AGM. You can also view the attached documents on Rehoboth's website here: <https://www.rcmflourish.ca/2024-agm/> To participate, please register ahead of time. Following your registration, you will receive an email from ZOOM with the webinar link and instructions on how to join. Register [here](#). For questions or concerns with registering and/or attending the webinar, please contact Emma Solowan at flourish@rcmflourish.ca or (780) 963-4044.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Associate Pastor of Congregational Life at Maranatha Christian Reformed Church in Edmonton. Are you passionate about discipleship? Do you have a heart for serving a multicultural and multigenerational congregation? Maranatha CRC is seeking to add an Associate Pastor to their ministry team. Must have 2-4 years of ministry-related education and experience (including volunteer work). See our website [here](#) or contact Carolyn at fcwoudstra@shaw.ca for more information and to apply. Applications close June 29, 2024.

EMMANUEL HOME IS HIRING! We are planning to hire a **Site Manager** at Emmanuel Home. This is a new mid-level manager role that we are excited to add to our management team. This addition is needed as we gear up to the transition of having a second site, the Lighthouse, which will open in early spring of 2025. If interested, contact Laura Pothoven by email at lpothoven@emmanuelhome.ca and be sure to check out our website [here](#) for more detailed information.

THE STUDION SCHOOL FOR SPIRITUAL DIRECTION (<https://www.thestudionschool.com>) is now taking applications for their next cohort, beginning October 20, 2024. The Studion is a two-year, part-time program that offers comprehensive training in the skill and art of Christian spiritual direction. Inquiries can be made to thestudionschool@gmail.com or rev.klok@gmail.com to find out more. Fuel for the Heart; Food for the Soul.

CRC NEWS: Check out what's happening in the CRC community [here](#).

CRCNA ANNOUNCEMENTS: Connecting church members with the ministries of the denomination. Find out more by visiting the website [here](#).